

NOTES ICHTYOLOGIQUES

A NEW SPECIES FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN AND SPANISH ICHTHYOFAUNA : *DICOLOGOGLOSSA HEXOPHTHALMA* (BENNETT, 1831) (PISCES, SOLEIDAE) FROM CATALAN WATERS.

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RÉSUMÉ : *Dicologoglossa hexophthalma* est connue dans l'Atlantique orientale du Portugal à l'Angola. La capture, au chalut, de trois spécimens de cette espèce à Palamós et à Port de la Selva (NE d'Espagne) étend son aire de distribution à la Méditerranée occidentale. Les principaux caractères méristiques et numériques des trois spécimens sont indiqués.

SUMMARY : To date, *Dicologoglossa hexophthalma* had been mentioned solely in the eastern Atlantic, from Portugal to Angola. The capture, by trawlers, of three specimens of this species in Palamós and Port de la Selva (NE Spain) allows its distribution area to be extended to the Mediterranean. The main morphometric and meristic data of the three specimens mentioned are given.

RESUMEN : Hasta ahora, *Dicologoglossa hexophthalma* había sido señalada únicamente en el Atlántico oriental, de Portugal a Angola. La captura al arrastre, en Palamós y Port de la Selva (NE de España), de tres ejemplares de esta especie permite ampliar su área de distribución al Mediterráneo occidental. Se indican los principales caracteres métricos y numéricos de los especímenes capturados.

Dicologoglossa hexophthalma is a species native to the warm-temperate Eastern Atlantic. The information provided by various authors regarding its specific geographical distribution was brought together by Torchio (1973). The species is found in the Eastern Atlantic, from Portugal to Angola, including the Madeira and Canary Islands. It lives on sandy bottoms and Lloris *et al.* (1978) found it on depths between 15 and 146 metres. Up to now there seems to

have been no indication of the presence of *D. hexophthalma* in the Mediterranean.

The three specimens studied were caught along the catalan coastline (NE Spain) : one was trawled between 50 and 100 m on sandy bottom, off Palamós (Catalan sea) ; the remaining two, also trawled but with no depth specification, come from Port de la Selva (Gulf of Lions) : one of them was taken on 2/12/1977 and the other in November 1980.

Description and discussion. In Table I we give the main morphometric and meristic data of the three specimens under consideration. All orbital measurements have been taken from right eye. General pattern and the distribution of the ocelli of the three specimens are similar to the description given by Chabanaud (1927).

If we compare the data of our specimens (Table I) with those given by Chabanaud (1927) and Nielsen (1965) for the Atlantic specimens, we can see that, except for the number of lateral line scales (smaller number in the Atlantic) and the body depth (greater in the Atlantic), the other characters are identical.

In my opinion, the presence of *D. hexophthalma* in this area cannot be considered as being accidental, since the three specimens were taken on different dates and in two different locations. *Solea senegalensis*, another Atlantic Soleidae, was first mentioned for Mediterranean by Rodriguez & Rodriguez (1980) off Fuengirola (Alborán sea) and is abundant in some parts of the Spanish Levante, such as Castellón and S. Carlos de la Rápita (De Sostoa & De Sostoa, 1981) What's happened then ? It is my believe that *D. hexophthalma* and *S. senegalensis* have been confused for a long time in Mediterranean with *Microchirus ocellatus* and *Solea vulgaris* respectively.

To my knowledge there is no indication of *D. hexophthalma* having been captured off the Spanish South-Atlantic coast. Thus this is its first mention for the Spanish ichthyofauna and also for the Mediterranean sea.

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- TABLE 1. — Morphometric (in mm) and meristic data of specimens studied. No. 1: Palamós, May 1978; Zoology Department collection, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona. Nos. 2 and 3: Port de la Selva; No. 2, November 1980; No. 3, 2/12/1977. Both from the collection of University College, Gerona.
- | Specimens | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Total length | 145 | 171 | 174 |
| Standard length | 121 | 142 | 143 |
| Head length | 27 | 32 | 30 |
| Maximum depth | 50 | 64 | 63 |
| Least depth caudal peduncle | 14 | 17 | 17 |
| Ocular diameter (Longit.) | 6 | 8 | 8 |
| Preorbital length | 15 | 18 | 16 |
| Interorbital width | 5 | 6 | 6 |
| Pectoral fin length (right) | 11 | 15 | 15 |
| Pectoral fin length (left) | 8 | 11 | 12 |
| Dorsal fin rays | 69 | 65 | 69 |
| Anal fin rays | 57 | 54 | 55 |
| Pectoral fin rays (right) | 7 | 7 | 6 |
| Pectoral fin rays (left) | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Lateral line scales | | | |
| (longitudinal series) | 97 | 99 | 102 |
- FIRST RECORDS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN CATFISH *ICTALURUS MELAS* (RAFINESQUE, 1820) (PISCES, ICTALURIDAE) IN SPANISH WATERS.
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- Abstract.** — *Ictalurus melas* (Rafinesque, 1820) is reported for the first time in Spain, from the Ebro and Cinca Rivers (Ebro basin) and from Bañolas Lake (Ter basin). Previous Spanish records of *Ictalurus nebulosus* (LeSueur, 1819) are doubtful, since they were not presented with adequate descriptions to permit critical identification.
- Resumen.** — Se cita por primera vez en España *Ictalurus melas* (Rafinesque, 1820), especie aclimatada procedente de Norteamérica, en los ríos Ebro y Cinca (cuenca del Ebro) y en el Lago de Bañolas (cuenca del Ter). Las citas españolas de *Ictalurus nebulosus* (LeSueur, 1819) son consideradas dudosas, ya que no han sido acompañadas de una descripción detallada que permita identificar con certeza la especie a que pertenecen.
- Résumé.** — La présence d'*Ictalurus melas* (Rafinesque, 1820), espèce originaire d'Amérique du Nord, est signalée pour la première fois en Espagne, dans les rivières Cinca et Ebre (bassin de l'Ebre) et le lac de Bañolas (bassin du Ter). Les citations espagnoles antérieures d'*Ictalurus nebulosus* (LeSueur, 1819) sont considérées comme douteuses car elles n'ont jamais été accompagnées de descriptions détaillées qui permettent de vérifier la détermination correcte de l'espèce.
- The first record of the family Ictaluridae (reported as Ameiuridae) in Spain is that of De Buen (1930), who records *Ameiurus nebulosus* as an introduced species but gives no information on acclimatization success. In fact, some years earlier (1910-1913) Mr. F.A. Darder, Director of the Barcelona Zoo, had tried to acclimatize several European and North American fish species in Bañolas Lake (Gerona), one of which was a catfish. However, this species is not listed in Lozano-Rey's (1935, 1952) papers on freshwater fishes of Spain. The I.F.I.E. (1952) reports one specimen of *A. nebulosus* from Bañolas Lake, collected on the 16 May 1950, and eight specimens from an aquarium in Barcelona. Several authors later reported this